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NOV -5 1925

"THE KEEPER OF THE BEES"

from the celebrated novel by

GENE STRATTON-PORTER

✓ Directed by James Leo Meehan ✓

CHARACTER	PLAYED BY
James Lewis MacFarlane. . . . .	Robert Frazer
Michael Worthington, The Bee Master . . .	Josef Swickard
Margaret Cameron. . . . .	Martha Mattox
Alice Louise Cameron, "Lolly" . . . . .	Clara Bow
Molly Cameron. . . . .	Alyce Mills
Jean Meredith, the "Little Scout". . . .	Gene Stratton
"Angel Face. . . . .	Joe Coppa
"Fat Ole Bill" . . . . .	Ainse Charland
"Nice Child". . . . .	Billy Osborne

Director. . . . .	J. Leo Meehan
Assistant Director. . . . .	William Fisher
Cameraman . . . . .	John Boyle

Footage  
Release Date                      October 18, 1925.  
Distributed by F.B.O.  
Continuity by . . . . . J. Leo Meehan  
From the Celebrated novel by GENE STRATTON PORTER.

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"THE KEEPER OF THE BEES"

James Lewis MacFarlane, world war hero, has been shunted from one government hospital to another ever since a ragged bit of shrapnel found its mark near his heart in the Argonne. The ugly wound refuses to heal, and even the hospital at Arrowhead Hot Springs, in Southern California, fails to improve his condition. One day, sitting morosely on the porch, Jamie overhears the army doctors discussing his case. They say he is a fertile field for tuberculosis, and give him a year at most to live. Determined to at least be free from the smell of iodoform if he is to die, and thoroughly disgusted with the government's clumsy efforts to help him, Jamie walks weakly away and never returns.

Jamie MacFarlane's intention is to get to the sea. In the far distance he can see the blue Pacific sparkling in the sun. He staggers on and finally comes to a wonderful little vine-clad cottage, on a bluff overlooking the ocean. Here he almost drops from exhaustion; but a silver haired old man with a white beard emerges from the cottage and calls for help. He is evidently a very sick man, and in helping the old fellow Jamie manages to all but forget his own illness. The old man is the Bee Master, and keeps many hives of the busy insects amid his flowers. Jamie calls the doctor and the Bee Master is taken to the hospital, first urging Jamie to stay on in his cottage and be cared for by Mrs. Cameron, a kindly neighbor.

The Bee Master dies, and leaves to Jamie half of his little estate and apiary. Jamie's partner in Keeping the Bees is the "Little Scout", a colorful eleven year old who turns out to be a girl, but who is heartily ashamed of that fact. While Jamie is sitting on the cliff one night during a storm, a girl in evident distress tries to throw herself into the sea. Jamie saves her  
(more)

and asks if he can not help. She tells him there is no help; that she needs a husband and a wedding ring immediately. MacFarlane explains to her that he has not long to live, and will be glad to marry her. They meet and marry in the Los Angeles Court-house next day; and then the "Storm Girl" walks out of his life. When he returns to the "Little Scout" and the bees, he finds a note of gratitude, signed "Alice Louise MacFarlane, and a bouquet of sand verbenas.

Fresh air, salt baths, and Margaret Cameron's good cooking soon do for Jamie what no medical attention could do. His wound heals, and he begins to enjoy life. But he soon remembers that he was contracted to die" - - - that he told the Storm Girl he would.

About this time he is called by a telegram to a hospital, where his "wife" has given birth to a son a week before. Arrived there he is astonished to see that the girl on the bed is not the "Storm Girl" he married. But he sees the wedding ring which he has given the "Storm Girl" on her finger, and so he admits in a bewildered way that this must be his wife. It is no time for a scene. The girl dies, and Molly Cameron, the "Storm Girl" whom he was really wed, rushes into the room. Dumfounded, Jamie takes the baby who bears his name and goes back to the Little Scout and Bees, where Mrs. Cameron is glad to care for the child.

It develops that Molly Cameron has merely been shielding her foolish sister; that she borrowed the sister's name and married Jamie to protect the baby. Mrs. Cameron discovers all this, and Jamie and Molly are reunited in a real happiness.

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